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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

United States of America,

Plaintiff,

vs.

David Allen Harbour,

Defendant.

Case No. 2:19-cr-00898-DLR (DMF)

**DEFENDANT’S RULE 29 MOTION
FOR JUDGMENT OF ACQUITTAL;
OR, ALTERNATIVELY, FOR A
DETERMINATION OF FATAL
VARIANCES BETWEEN THE
CHARGES AND THE PROOF
ADDUCED**

(Oral Argument Requested)

The government has rested. Defendant David Allen Harbour (Defendant) moves under Rule 29, F.R.Crim.P. for a Judgment of Acquittal. References to the charges are to the Second Superseding Indictment (“SSI”).

The standard in a Rule 29 motion is whether, viewing all the evidence in the light most favorable to the government, no rational juror could find the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. *Jackson v. Virginia*, 443 U.S. 307, 319 (1979). “Although *Jackson* requires the reviewing court initially to construe all evidence in favor of the government, the evidence so construed may still be so supportive of innocence that no

1 rational juror could conclude that the government proved its case beyond a reasonable
2 doubt.” *United States v. Nevils*, 598 F.3d 1158, 1167 (9th Cir. 2010) (en banc).
3 “[E]vidence is insufficient to support a verdict where mere speculation, rather than
4 reasonable inference, supports the government’s case.” *Id.*

5
6 Viewing the evidence in the light most favorable to the government, the jury could
7 not reasonably find the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. In other words, the
8 evidence the government has presented fails not only to prove guilt beyond a reasonable
9 doubt, but also to meet the much lower threshold of sufficient evidence to send the case
10 to the jury. Therefore, a judgment of acquittal is warranted.

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12 In addition, and alternatively, there are fatal variances between precisely what was
13 charged in the SSI and what was shown by the government’s evidence to the extent that
14 the same amounts to an attempt to amend the SSI. The result is the same. Many, if not all
15 counts of the SSI must be dismissed.

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17 “An *amendment* of the indictment occurs when the charging terms of the
18 indictment are altered, either literally or in effect, by the prosecutor or a court after the
19 grand jury has last passed upon them. A *variance* occurs when the charging terms of the
20 indictment are left unaltered, but the evidence offered at trial proves facts materially
21 different from those alleged in the indictment.” *United States v. Von Stoll*, 726 F.2d 584,
22 586 (9th Cir. 1984) *citing to* *United States v. Cusmano*, 659 F.2d 714, 718 (6th Cir.1981).
23 Constructive amendments normally involve a complex of facts while a variance occurs
24 where the indictment and the proof involve only a single, though materially different sets
25 of facts. *United States v. Adamson*, 291 F.3d 606, 615 (9th Cir. 2002), *holding modified*
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1 by *United States v. Larson*, 495 F.3d 1094 (9th Cir. 2007). However, even some
2 variances may be fatal when it affects the substantial rights of a defendant. *Id.* at 615-616,
3 citing to *United States v. Tsinhnahjinnie*, 112 F.3d 988, 990–92 (9th Cir.1997) (finding
4 fatal variance where indictment charged defendant with sexual abuse of child occurring
5 on Indian reservation during summer of 1992, but proof fluctuated between placing the
6 abuse at place and time in indictment and placing it off reservation in 1994); *Jeffers v.*
7 *United States*, 392 F.2d 749, 752–53 (9th Cir.1968) (finding fatal variance where
8 indictment alleged that money solicited by religious group was used for non-religious
9 purposes, but evidence failed to prove that use was non-religious, instead showing that
10 use was merely contrary to representations made when money was collected).

13 As for constructive amendments: “There are two types of constructive
14 amendments: first, where “there is a complex of facts [presented at trial] distinctly
15 different from those set forth in the charging instrument, and second, where the crime
16 charged [in the indictment] was substantially altered at trial, so that it was impossible to
17 know whether the grand jury would have indicted for the crime actually proved.” *United*
18 *States v. Davis*, 854 F.3d 601, 603 (9th Cir. 2017).

21 Each Count and each element of each count will be discussed with specific focus
22 on exactly what the government charged because the charged conduct govern what the
23 government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt. While the government can prove
24 more, e.g., allegations drawn from the Bill of Particulars, they must be *in addition* to
25 what the grand jury charged and a replacement for that which the grand jury charged.
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1 **Count 1, 9, and 10: Wire Fraud, Richard Turasky:** The allegation in Count 1
2 is that Harbour used some of Turasky's money to pay business expenses instead of
3 Harbour deploying all of the money immediately to Green Circle to fund payday lending.
4 "Similar to M.B.'s funds, R.T.'s funds were used to pay the balance on HARBOUR's
5 American Express credit card and to make Ponzi payments to other investors."
6

7 Exhibits 674 and 1505, belie the government's contention as does Turasky's
8 testimony. Turasky has, finally, admitted that the documents drafted by his own lawyers
9 permitted Harbour to use the money for expenses. The Loan and Assignment Agreement,
10 Exhibit 1505, as well as his Declaration, Exhibit 674, say the same thing. It is undisputed
11 that, under the loan documents at the time payments were to be received, payments
12 commenced that were precisely the amounts that were supposed to be repaid began to be
13 repaid. Turasky agreed from the stand.
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16 Additionally, the amount to be repaid was based upon the \$350,000 amount: not
17 the \$500,000 amount. This is because the \$150,000 returned via wire the next day was
18 not considered to have been invested by both Harbour and his agent, Joel Vetrano. Laura
19 Purifoy corroborated that \$350,000 was considered as loaned because the \$150,000 was
20 paid back the next day. This was agreed to by Turasky in his Declaration that he agreed
21 he read before signing under penalty of perjury. Interest payments were made under the
22 amortization table that pertained to the \$350,000; not the \$500,000.
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25 While Turasky testified that it was "customary" for the borrower to pay the
26 lender's fees, which, according to Turasky were, or would be, \$150,000, nothing in the
27 loan agreement drafted by Turasky's lawyer's required Harbour to pay those claimed
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1 fees. Cash is fungible¹ and the entirety of Turasky's \$350,000 eventually was sent to
2 Green Circle without any effect on the interest payments to Turasky. Laura Purifoy's
3 testimony supported this as well. *See* Trial Transcript Day 8 PM Session pg. 159 ln. 1-11.
4 Nothing in the Loan Agreement mandated that *all* of the \$350,000 arrive at Green Circle
5 on the same day. Turasky loaned the \$350,000 to OakTree; not to Green Circle.
6

7 Counts 9 and 10 are also wire fraud counts. These counts do not relate to money
8 taken from Turasky but to payments made to Turasky. Wire fraud is the willful theft of
9 money or property received *from* a victim pursuant to a scheme and artifice to defraud in
10 which the use of interstate wire communications are used in furtherance of the scheme
11 and artifice to defraud. Wire fraud does not include the use of the facilities of interstate
12 communications to pay money to a victim except in circumstances neither alleged nor
13 even the subject of proof here. The forensic accountant has not proven that any funds
14 paid to Turasky's entity were from specific underlying criminal activity.
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17 **Count 2, 4-8: Wire Fraud, Mark Burg:** The principal allegation, contained in
18 Count 2, is the same as with respect to Turasky in Count 1. That contention is that
19 \$400,000 of Burg's \$1 million investment did not go to Green Circle, whereas \$600,000
20 did. Cash is fungible. While all of Burg's \$1 million investment did not go to Green
21 Circle the day it was received, eventually dollars representing the full \$1 million did and
22 the delay was not shown to have had any effect on the payments of \$8,125.00 received
23 quarterly by Burg.
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¹ *United States v. Sperry Corp.*, 493 U.S. 52 (1989).

1 Again, it is crucial to remember that all the papers were drafted by Burg's lawyer,
2 Robin Gilden. Whereas, Turasky made a loan, Burg *invested* \$1 million in Pujanza, an
3 entity of which he held a 1% ownership interest. According to the First Amended and
4 Restated Pujanza Operating Agreement, Exhibit 819, Harbour, as the manager of
5 Pujanza, was entitled to use the \$1 million as he saw fit, including for expenses, without
6 any oversight by Burg. These were not powers that Harbour created for himself. Had
7 there been, an argument could be made that the arrogation of such powers by Harbour in
8 documents created by Harbour would have been a "badge" of fraud. Here, however, it is
9 unquestioned that these powers were granted to Harbour by Burg's own lawyers.
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12 More importantly, Burg agreed on the stand that Harbour did have the right to use
13 his money to defray business expenses. Shown Section 5.8 of the Operating Agreement
14 re-drafted by his lawyer, Robin Gilden, he was forced to agree that Harbour had the right
15 to use the money to reimburse business expenses.
16

17 The government's only other fact witness with respect to these counts, Dean
18 Avedon, testified that there was an oral agreement between Burg and Harbour (as to how
19 often and in what amount payments would be made). Burg never testified to that and,
20 once again, the Operating Agreement drafted by Burg's lawyers did not support
21 Avedon's position. There was, in fact, no mandatory schedule governing when the
22 invested funds would be returned, as Avedon agreed on the stand. Regardless, the
23 agreement Burg's lawyers drafted contained the usual contractual provision that
24 invalidated any and all prior written or oral agreements.
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1 Counts 4-8 are all related to payments of \$8,125.00 which, had there been any
2 requirement for distributions in the documents drafted by Burg's lawyers, would have
3 been those distributions. As in the case of the interest payments charged in Counts 9 and
4 10 (with respect to Turasky), the five payments *to* Burg are not properly the subject of
5 wire fraud claims. Wire fraud is the willful obtaining of money or property from a victim
6 through the use of an interstate wire facility in furtherance of a scheme or artifice to
7 defraud. In other words, but for the fact that Harbour was permitted, under documents
8 prepared by Burg's lawyers, to use some or all of the \$1 million investment for expenses,
9 Count 2 might constitute a valid wire fraud charge. But not the five \$8,125 payments to
10 Burg.

13 The FTC investigation had nothing to do with Green Circle, Pujanza, Milagro, or
14 OakTree. According to Larry Cook, the FTC action (never proven to any legal
15 conclusion), so far as the evidence in this case is concerned, was not brought based upon
16 the activities of the Canyon Road portfolios, Harbour or Canyon Road but was based
17 upon Coppinger's call center, CWB. Cook agreed that no one said that Harbour did
18 anything wrong with respect to Canyon Road. The conversations between Harbour and
19 Burg that led to the \$1 million investment had nothing to do with the FTC investigation
20 into CWB owned and operated by Coppinger, and the entities exclusively managed by
21 Ted Rowland. The (ultimately) illegal turnover motion was not brought until March 31,
22 2015, long after Burg had made his investment. The Receiver acknowledged that no
23 claims of wrongdoing needed to exist in order to seek turnovers from Harbour and none
24 were ever proven.
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1 Why, when Harbour's activities were all directed at recovering from the
2 destruction of his business that he associated with Operation Chokepoint, would have
3 devised a plan to steal Burg's \$1 million or Turasky's \$350,000? Recovering from effects
4 of Operation Choke Point which, in Harbour's belief, had caused the demise of DNA
5 Investments would take years and a lot more than these sums.

7 **Count 3: Wire Fraud, PAIF:** This claim is different from all the others. The
8 government charged that,

9 . . . HARBOUR had to provide certain financial information to PAIF for
10 their review that would be material to the funding decision for each draw
11 request. Defendant HARBOUR misrepresented the financial condition and
12 operations of Green Circle. PAIF, began funding Green Circle in July 2015.

13 The government proved only the following: At the direction of Bob Ferrell,
14 PAIF's CEO, Purifoy sent a \$1.1 million funding request from PAIF on August 10, 2015.
15 The draw request was funded on August 11, 2015.

16 PAIF did not ask that Harbour supply anything to support the funding request
17 before it was received, nor did Harbour submit anything in support of the request. This
18 single event forms the entirety of Count 3. What the government showed during their
19 case-in-chief is that the very first borrowing base report (Exhibit 2294) was finalized by
20 about September 10, 2015, fully a month *after* the \$1.1 million was funded (August 11,
21 2015). That was the borrowing base for August 31, 2015. There had been at least four
22 draft versions of the August 31, 2015, borrowing base. The August 31, 2015, borrowing
23 base was the first and only borrowing base introduced by the government.
24 base was the first and only borrowing base introduced by the government.
25 base was the first and only borrowing base introduced by the government.
26 base was the first and only borrowing base introduced by the government.
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28 base was the first and only borrowing base introduced by the government.

1 According to Ms. Purifoy, who was the government's sole fact witness with
2 respect to Count 3, some (unknown number of) months after August 2015, Harbour
3 proposed pen and ink changes on three later borrowing base printouts.
4

5 Purifoy typed the proposed changes and sent them to Stefan Andreev, who worked
6 for Green Circle. She pointed out the changes that Harbour had proposed. Andreev, who,
7 according to Purifoy was fully informed by her of the changes she claimed that Harbour
8 directed, disagreed with the changes. Whether the changes proposed by Harbour ever
9 went past the stage of Andreev having seen and rejected them, was not the subject of any
10 evidence introduced by the government. Meanwhile, the \$1.1 million had been received
11 may months earlier. Thus, whatever Harbour did or tried to do did not and could not have
12 played any role at all in the obtaining of the \$1.1 million. Of course, the \$1.1 million was
13 no more than a return of proceeds loaned by OakTree to Green Circle.
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16 Count 3 must be dismissed. There is no evidence of any illegal conduct at all. The
17 government's allegation that Harbour supplied false and fraudulent information to PAIF
18 to induce PAIF to fulfill the OakTree \$1.1 million draw request was not supported by a
19 single bit of evidence. Purifoy stated that she had zero involvement in the \$1.1 million
20 except to request the funding and that she knew nothing about how or why the \$1.1
21 million was allowed to be drawn.
22

23 **Count 11. Mail Fraud, Alison Willson:** There are no speaking allegations
24 concerning Alison Willson in the SSI. In other words, the government did not say
25 anything about the supposed fraud perpetrated on Alison Willson. The only mention of
26 Alison Willson ("A.W.") is in the list of Investor-Victims on p. 11, line 22 of the SSI.
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As an investor-victim, Alison Wilson was not a charged victim at all.

A.W.	Canyon Road	\$100,000.00	02/18/2014
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Further, Count 11 says only the following,

Count	Payor Account	Check Date	Posted Date	Description of Item Mailed	Amount (Approximate)
11	HighPointe Capital Group, LLC BMO x7406	4/22/2016	4/28/2016	Check # 3231 to Liberty Trust Co. FBO: A.W. in the amount of \$7,500	\$7,500.00

Had the government charged Harbour with defrauding Alison Willson as a named “victim” as opposed to the non-charged “investor-victim,” there might be something to send to the jury (absent the existence of the host of other problems with Count 11 identified below). We assume that Alison Willson loaned \$100,000 to Canyon Road on February 18, 2014. However, the government has not *charged* that the \$100,000 was willfully and fraudulently obtained by Harbour by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, misrepresentations, or affirmative material omissions and that Harbour used the mails in furtherance of a scheme.

Setting aside the charging issues, here is what has been shown, taking the evidence in the light most favorable to the government: Alison Willson had made an earlier loan to Canyon Road. There was no evidence that her first loan ever went into payday lending. As the FTC Receiver, Larry Cook, stated, payday lending had been the “primary” business of the Canyon Road funds but it was never its only business. Lionel Green concurred. Willson’s first loan had either been paid-off completely or, Willson thought it

1 had been completely paid-off. Pleased with the success of the earlier loan, Willson
2 approached Harbour about loaning more money but not into payday lending. There is no
3 evidence that her first loan went into payday lending. She was interested in another
4 business line in which Canyon Road was involved. *See*, Exhibit 369.
5

6 In any event, Count 11 does not specify anything about the nature of Harbour's
7 allegedly fraudulent conduct. This is sufficient to require the dismissal of Count 11 on its
8 own. Despite all of this, what is eminently clear is that, unless the government has proven
9 something sufficient to have caused the 5-year SOL to have *not* expired, the SOL on
10 Count 11 expired on February 18, 2019, and Count 11 was charged on November 24,
11 2020, some 21 months after the expiration of the SOL.
12

13 There is another grave problem with the Alison Willson charges and that is
14 embodied in the testimony of the government's forensic expert, Jeanette Paige and
15 Exhibit 682. Alison Willson is Count 11. Her then-husband, Dan Willson, is not a
16 charged count. Closely examined, Exhibit 682, advanced by the government to trace
17 Alison Willson's funds, actually, either traced Dan Willson's funds or leaves it
18 undetermined and undeterminable whose funds were deployed. This is because Dan
19 Willson's funds were received a week before Alison Willson's funds and the dates of
20 distribution make it clear that it was more likely than not that Dan Willson's money (or
21 Canyon Road's own money) was actually being traced.
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24 As will be amplified in connection with Count 12 (the Carol Hill mail fraud
25 count), the contention is that the "mailing" of the \$7,500 check on April 22, 2016, was,
26 somehow, in furtherance of the fraud that, in the usual course, was otherwise completed
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1 when the Willson funds were received by Canyon Road on February 28, 2014. *See*
2 Exhibit 682.

3 What else did the government prove with respect to Willson? It proved nothing.
4 The government did not even prove that the check was mailed or caused to be mailed by
5 Harbour. Rather, Willson admitted, and Purifoy confirmed, that the \$7,500 check was
6 picked-up by Willson at the HPCG office and that, if the check was mailed to Texas, it
7 was Willson who mailed it. More importantly, for purposes of this Rule 29(a) Motion is
8 how the mailing of the check can be seen as “in furtherance” of the fraud that was
9 otherwise completed on February 18, 2014. The specific “mailing” that is the
10 foundational underpinning for Count 11 is a \$7,500 interest payment made by HPCG on
11 April 22, 2016. In her Declaration, sworn under penalty of perjury, and admitted as Ex.
12 676, Willson explained the transaction.

13 Willson swore that, even though Harbour was not required to do so, after the FTC
14 shut-down Canyon Road, Harbour agreed that HPCG would assume the responsibility for
15 the February 2014 note to Canyon Road. To accomplish that, Harbour rewrote the
16 \$100,000 note in November 2015 with HPCG as the obligor, even though there was no
17 legal consideration for it having done so.

18 The \$7,500 interest payment that was made in April 2016 was made not on the
19 February 2014 Canyon Road note but on the November 11, 2015, HPCG note (that is, the
20 note described in the Willson Declaration, Ex. 676).

21 Thus, to the extent that the SSI charged (or meant to charge) Harbour with any
22 crime in which Willson was the victim, if the April 22, 2016, \$7,500 payment was the
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1 crime (use of the mails in furtherance of the scheme and artifice to defraud), that payment
2 was not associated with, nor could not have been associated with, the February 2014
3 Canyon Road note. To complete the circle, no fraud has ever been alleged with respect to
4 the November 11, 2015, HPCG note which replaced the February 18, 2014, Canyon Road
5 note. Since no crime was alleged in the SSI with respect to the HPCG note that replaced
6 the Canyon Road note and since the \$7,500 payment was an interest payment on the
7 HPCG note; not the Canyon Road note, the government's first problem is that the \$7,500
8 payment that forms the basis of Count 11 is not connected with any crime outlined
9 (pleaded) in the SSI.
10

11
12 Taking the facts the other way and ignoring the existence of the November 11,
13 2015 HPCG Note, in order for Count 11 to survive this Rule 29(a) motion, the
14 government would have offered evidence from which, first, the Court and, if there was a
15 factual dispute to be resolved, the jury, could find that the running of the SOL was
16 interrupted.
17

18 What did the government show about the issue of whether the 5-year SOL should
19 be considered tolled or interrupted? The government brought forward no evidence on the
20 issue from which the Court or a properly instructed jury could find that the 5-year SOL
21 on Count 11 had not expired on February 18, 2019. Nor, had the government decided to
22 proceed on the basis of the November 11, 2015, HPCG note, would the government have
23 been saved, since the SOL on the November 11, 2015, note expired on November 11,
24 2020. The first superseding indictment was November 24, 2020, and it was there that
25 Counts 11 and 12 first appeared.
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1 Because the SOL analysis for Count 11 and the SOL analysis for Count 12 are the
2 same, we will next discuss Count 12, the Carol Hill mail fraud and adopt the “lulling”
3 discussion in it to both Counts 11 and 12.
4

5 **Count 12. Mail Fraud, Carol Hill:** Paragraph 15 of the SSI states that,

6 C.H. was Defendant HARBOUR' s employee who invested \$81,621.34
7 with HARBOUR through his entity NorthRock, on or about December 15,
8 2012. C.H. had the funds in her IRA, and HARBOUR directed her to
9 transfer the IRA to Liberty Trust Company located in Texas, and the loan to
10 NorthRock would be serviced through Liberty Trust.

11 The only other mention of Carol Hill in the SSI is in Count 12, itself, which
12 charges that on or about May 3, 2016, Harbour mailed or caused to be mailed a \$255.00
13 check to her IRA company. Factually, it is undisputed that it was Hill's idea to use
14 HPCG's money to pay her \$255.00 IRA account maintenance fee notwithstanding that
15 she was making \$50,000 a year in her job.

16 It was she who wrote the check. It was she who signed David Harbour's name to
17 the check. And, finally, it was she; not Harbour, who decided to mail the check and who
18 mailed the check. The only thing that Harbour did was to be charged with mail fraud.
19

20 While all of these factors could be the subject of an interesting trial practice
21 seminar, we do not need to get there in order to dispose of Count 12. The 5-year statute of
22 limitations on Count 12 expired on December 15, 2017. Count 12 was not charged until
23 November 24, 2020.
24

25 The general rule is that the SOL runs from the completion of fraud which means
26 from when the defendant willfully obtained money or property from the victim through
27 false or fraudulent pretenses. Here, the government contended that \$81,621.34 went to
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1 NorthRock on December 15, 2012 but as is now known, the December 2012 NorthRock
2 bank statement did not show the receipt of the \$81,621.34. Hill testified that she mailed
3 the money to Melanie at NorthRock. R.T. February 3, 2023, p. 82. This is the sole
4 evidence of the use of the mail in furtherance of the scheme. This loan was, as stated,
5 made in December 2012.² The sole basis that could extend the SOL for Count 12 beyond
6 December 15, 2017 would be if the \$255.00 payment that Hill made for herself from
7 HPCG funds after having signed Harbour's name to the check and mailing it herself to
8 her own Texas-based IRA company somehow prevented the SOL from expiring on
9 December 15, 2017.

12 What would arguably prevent the SOL from expiring? According to the case-law,
13 if the May 3, 2016, mailing was "in furtherance" of the fraud, that is, if the mailing could
14 be considered a "lulling" letter, the SOL would not have expired.

16 While the government falsely contended that she repeatedly asked and demanded
17 her money from Harbour, the evidence introduced by the government through Carol Hill
18 was that, once the loan went into default – no interest payments were ever made on the
19 \$81,621.34 and the principal was never repaid – she never had a single conversation
20 about the event with Harbour. There was not and could not have been any lulling. Worse
21 for the government, it now appears that the bank statement on which her deposit should

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26 ² The \$500,000 Pat Hill loan was made in February 2013. The \$500,000 loan to DNA
27 (which went to KSQ and was the subject of a Finder's Fee Agreement between Harbour
28 and the Hills) is not the subject of any charge of the SSI because the government
conceded, in pleadings filed pre-trial, that the 5-year SOL had expired.

1 have appeared is void of any reference to the money having been received and Paige
2 testified that she could not trace it.

3 More importantly, the \$255.00 check that Hill elected to have HPCG fund and that
4 she wrote, signed, and mailed in order to pay an administrative fee to her own IRA
5 account manager, did not constitute and could not constitute an act in furtherance of the
6 alleged fraud to the extent that it would extend the SOL.

7
8 The government elected to not introduce any evidence as to how the payment of
9 the \$255.00 administrative fee was “in furtherance” of the fraud that, under ordinary
10 rules, was complete when, allegedly acting with the intent to steal her \$81,621.34,
11 Harbour induced her to loan her IRA money to NorthRock. The government having
12 introduced no facts from which a properly instructed jury could conclude that the \$255.00
13 check constituted “lulling” activity, the Court is required to apply the 5-year SOL and
14 therefore must dismiss Count 12.

15
16 Lulling activities in wire fraud must be “incident to the execution of the scheme”
17 and not “part of an after the fact transaction that, while foreseeable, was not in
18 furtherance of the defendant’s fraudulent scheme.” *United States v. Lazarenko*, 564 F. 3d
19 1026, 1036 (9th Circ. 2009). In mail fraud, mailings designed to avoid detection or
20 responsibility for a fraudulent scheme fall within the mail fraud statute when they are sent
21 prior to the scheme’s completion, and it is the scope of the scheme as devised by the
22 defendant that determines when the scheme is completed. *United States v. Tanke*, 743
23 F.3d 1296, 1303 (9th Circ. 2014). The issue of when a scheme is completed is not purely
24 one of timing, but also if the wire or mailing “is a part of the execution of the scheme as
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1 conceived by the perpetrator at the time, not if the defendant, prior to the wire or mailing
2 had obtained all the money they expected to get.” *United States v. Jinian*, 725 F. 3d 954,
3 961 (9th Cir. 2013).

4
5 In a prosecution for mail fraud, the government must establish that a defendant
6 used the mails for the purpose of executing the fraudulent scheme or artifice. *United*
7 *States v. Lo*, 231 F.3d 471, 478 (9th Cir. 2000), *holding modified by United States v.*
8 *Larson*, 495 F.3d 1094 (9th Cir. 2007). It is sufficient for the government to show that
9 either the mailing was an essential element or that it was incident to an essential part of
10 the scheme. *Id.* The question in determining if a mailing is attributable to the scheme to
11 defraud is if the mailing is part of the execution of the scheme as conceived by the
12 perpetrator at the time. *Id.* citing to *Schmuck v. United States*, 489 U.S. 705, 711, 109
13 S.Ct. 1443, 103 L.Ed.2d 734 (1989). Put another way, the requirement is satisfied if the
14 completion of the scheme or prevention of its detection is in some way dependent upon
15 the mailings. *United States v. Mitchell*, 744 F.2d 701, 703 (9th Cir. 1984).

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18 The mailing of a \$255.00 check for Carol Hill’s benefit was in no way in
19 furtherance of the scheme alleged by the government, nor has the government shown any
20 evidence of it going towards the alleged scheme. Additionally, there was no testimony by
21 Carol Hill that the \$255.00 caused her to not detect the alleged theft of her money; the
22 government could have decided to elicit that testimony but did not.

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25 **Counts 13-23 Transactional Money Laundering**

26 The government charged that:
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On or about the dates listed below . . Defendant HARBOUR, individually and doing business under the entities described above, along with other individuals and entities . . . knowingly engaged and attempted to engage in the following monetary transactions in the United States in criminally derived property of a value exceeding \$10,000, derived from specified unlawful activity, namely wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, with each instance being a separate count under this indictment:

Count	Date (On or about)	Amount (Approximate)	Financial Institution	Description of Transaction
13	08/05/2014	\$34,665.33	Northern Trust	Check #1238 from DNA Investments Northern Trust x9412 to D.S.
14	08/08/2014	\$37,500.00	Northern Trust	Transfer from Oak Tree Northern Trust x1790 to DNA Management Northern Trust x3388
15	08/08/2014	\$37,500.00	Northern Trust	Transfer from DNA Management NT3388 to HighPointe Capital Group BOA x3354
16	08/08/2014	\$37,500.00	Bank of America	Transfer from HighPointe Capital Group BOA x3354 to Herrington Park 1, LLC
17	08/21/2014	\$12,083.90	Northern Trust	Check #1542 from 21020 Northern Trust x5180 to J.R.G.
18	08/27/2014	\$142,785.88	Northern Trust	ACH Debit Payment from DNA Investments Northern Trust x9412 to Defendant HARBOUR American Express
19	08/28/2014	\$13,682.69	Bank of America	Transfer from HighPointe Capital Group BOA x3354 to Employment Edge
20	12/04/2014	\$223,121.88	Northern Trust	ACH Debit Payment from DNA Management Northern Trust x3388 to Defendant HARBOUR American Express
21	8/12/2015	\$915,000.00	BMO Harris	Oak Tree BMO 1964 to Milagro BMO 5236

22	08/13/2015	\$750,000.00	Bank of America	Milagro BMO 5236 to Defendant HARBOUR BOA x8017
23	09/02/2015	\$500,000.00	Bank of America	Defendant HARBOUR BOA x8017 to FTC Receiver LEC

Since the transactional money laundering charges are linked to the wire fraud charges, they are and can only be associated with the wire fraud victims in the SSL. Counts 13-19 are associated with the alleged Turasky wire fraud counts (Counts 1, 9 and 10). Count 20 is associated with the alleged Burg wire fraud counts (Counts 2, 4-8). Counts 21, 22, and 23 are associated with the alleged PAIF wire fraud count (Count 3).

PAIF. We have already shown that government has not introduced sufficient evidence to survive the Rule 29(a) Motion with respect to PAIF. If Count 3 falls away, as it must, then Counts 21, 22, and 23 fall away with Count 3.

Turasky. Counts 13-19 are all payments that were made using the \$350,000 that Turasky admitted on the stand could be used for business expenses and that the Loan and Assignment Agreement and Turasky's Declaration also agreed could be used for business expenses. The Judgment Loan Documents included Exhibit A, the Resolution Authorizing Loans. The Loan and Assignment Agreement and the Declaration both spell out the contents of the Resolution. Therefore, the fact that Turasky denied having seen Exhibit A, the Resolution Authorizing Loans, was immaterial to the admissions he made in the Loan and Assignment Agreement and the Declaration. He knew when he signed both documents that Harbour had the right to borrow the funds, and he agreed to the same

1 on the stand. He agreed that he signed both documents and, while he said he did not focus
2 on them particularly, he also did not try to repudiate them.

3 In short, in it beyond peradventure that Harbour was permitted to use Turasky's
4 money for expenses.³ If Turasky's money could be used for expenses, then Harbour's use
5 of Turasky's money to pay expenses is not money laundering. This is because the funds
6 were not obtained fraudulently. They were obtained under the terms of documents that
7 were prepared by Turasky's own lawyers that permitted the money to be used for
8 expenses. Therefore, the government has failed to prove that the Turasky money was
9 obtained by fraud and, consequently, that its use for the purposes stated in Counts 13-19
10 constituted money laundering. There was neither an underlying fraud nor, as a result, the
11 use of proceeds derived from fraud.

12
13
14
15 **Burg.** There is no essential difference between the seven Turasky money
16 laundering counts and the single Burg money laundering count. Burg's lawyers drafted
17 the documents that permitted Harbour to direct OakTree Management to borrow the
18 money from Pujanza, where the Burg money had been received. Burg and Avedon both
19 admitted that, under the documents prepared by Robin Gilden, Harbour had the power to
20 borrow the funds to pay expenses.

21
22 And, as with Turasky, the issue really comes down to whether in building
23 OakTree Management, Harbour had amassed business expenses ultimately reimbursable

24
25 ³ There is no evidence that the \$350,000 received from Turasky – cash is fungible – was
26 not eventually all received by and within Green Circle or that Turasky was not paid the
27 full interest rate on the full \$350,000. Turasky's contention that \$500,000 was loaned that
28 the \$150,000 which all agree was sent back the next day was for payment of his loan
expenses remains just that, Turasky's contention.

1 to Harbour or to other of his entities that exceeded the amount of money he borrowed
2 from Burg (\$223,121.88). He had the same power with respect to funds loaned by
3 Turasky.
4

5 In the case of Turasky, the government did not show that within a reasonable
6 period of time (meaning that it caused no loss of interest payments to Turasky), “his”
7 money went to Green Circle to be used for consumer loans. In the case of Burg,
8 according to the deal papers created by his own lawyers, no interim payments were
9 required to be made to Burg at all. Any payments made or not made to Burg were at
10 Harbour’s sole discretion as Manager of Pujanza.
11

12 With respect to finders fees, the government has alleged that Harbour received
13 finders fees from KSQ, and that those finders fees were never disclosed to lenders, the
14 failure allegedly constituting a material omission.
15

16 However, the government only produced one witness that discussed Harbour
17 receiving finder’s fees: Joe Cathy. The issue is that Mr. Cathy only knew about the
18 finder’s fees after the government told him. On January 27, 2023, the Court reiterated
19 that it had been assured by the government that they had evidence based on the accounts
20 and the experts that the money received by Harbour could be tied back to the schemes.
21 RT January 27, 2023, p. 14-15, ll. 24-25; 1-2. But that evidence was never admitted;
22 when asked on cross examination, Ms. Paige could not link the funds received to finder’s
23 fees. The funds could have come from numerous sources such as principal payments,
24 interest, or even finder’s fees, but the burden of proof remains with the government and
25
26
27
28

1 they failed to have their experts link any funds to finder's fees. Ms. Paige could not link
2 the funds received to finder's fees.

3 She admitted that she took payments that appeared to match percentages that
4 might have existed, if there was finder's fees, but could not actually trace them across the
5 KSQ synapse because the government never obtained the KSQ bank records. The funds
6 could have come from numerous sources such as principal payments, interest, or even
7 finder's fees, but the burden of proof remains with the government, and they failed to
8 have their experts link any funds to finder's fees.
9

10 The bottom line is that the government never proved why Harbour got \$27 million
11 from KSQ or how KSQ received that money. The government never even tried to do so.
12 What is obvious is that Harbour got \$13 million more back from KSQ than was ever
13 contributed to KSQ. Was this \$13 million fees? Was it arbitrage? Participation
14 agreements? Were payments for consulting? Showing the payments were based upon
15 fraudulent conduct was the requirement imposed by the Court on the government, which
16 failed to meet the test. The government has ignored Canyon's \$6.2 million completely.
17 And the government never proved anything concerning NorthRock.
18

19 The government's failure to prove what it charged and to link the character
20 assassination that was at the heartland of the government's case must have consequences.
21

22 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 24th day of February 2023.
23

24 CHRISTIAN DICHTER & SLUGA, P.C.
25

26 By: /s/ Stephen M. Dichter
27

28 Stephen M. Dichter
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on February 24, 2023, I electronically transmitted the attached document to the Clerk's Office using the CM/ECF system for filing and for transmittal of Notice of Electronic Filing to the following CM/ECF registrants:

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